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A Line o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year.
 By JOHN KENDRICK BANGS.

First printing of an original poem, written daily for The Washington Herald.

THE START.
 The world is round—a great big O—
 Just draw it and you'll see—
 And O is but the start you know
 Of Opportunity.

Somehow the proposed site for the new government power plant reminds us of Verdun.

The Board of Trade is planning its annual shad bake. Might combine it with an ice carnival.

In Missouri a man acquitted of murder was heartily congratulated by the father of the man he killed. Nothing like being popular at home.

Some day, in the midst of the discussions as to the advisability of consolidating the two street railway systems in Washington, it will occur to someone to ask the stockholders what they think about it.

A cow ate \$300 in bills, the savings of a North Carolina farmer, which he had hidden in his barn. But come to think of it, the money is just as safe in the cow and is doing just as much good as it was in the barn.

Enver Pasha, Turkish minister of war, who was assassinated by the cable dispatches, which also appointed his successor, has returned to Constantinople. It seems that he came straight from the tomb, but the tomb was that of Mohammed.

A bill has been introduced in the Maryland legislature to impose an annual tax of \$2 on bachelors in Baltimore County. Evidently this is either an insult or a compliment to the fair sex, and we are waiting to hear which it is from the leaders of the feminist movement.

If it is true that Villa stole 190 cavalry horses and two machine guns from the Thirteenth United States Cavalry at Columbus, N. Mex., it is evident that there are certain steps in the direction of preparedness that the War Department can take without waiting for action by Congress.

The protest against the placing of Mr. Bryan's name on the Nebraska ballot as candidate for delegate to the national convention, on the ground that he is not a Democrat, has been overruled by the secretary of state, but since his action was taken without a hearing, there may yet be work for the credentials committee at St. Louis.

An American refugee from Torreon says Carranza hasn't a chance to win in Mexico, that he has no more supporters and controls no more territory than Villa. If this is true, it would seem to be the urgent duty of this government to be ready with substantial reinforcements for Pershing and Funston, especially as we seem to find it necessary to be so very careful of our manners in Mexico to avoid giving offense to the helpless Carranza faction.

Another Dutch steamer has been torpedoed in the North Sea. The continued destruction of neutral, unarmed merchantmen makes clearer every minute the real purpose of the German proclamation of an intention to sink without warning all armed vessels of belligerent nations. Happily, she was unable to bring about the removal or curtailment of their defensive armament, so that they continue to sail the seas in comparative security while unarmed and helpless craft, many of them of neutral nations, are being sent to the bottom.

The French minister of finance has stirred France with the declaration: "We have reached the decisive hour. We can say without exaggeration, without illusion, and without vain optimism that we now see the end of this horrible war." But from Berlin comes the semi-official announcement that the allies, having failed to respond to the imperial chancellor's suggestion some weeks ago that Germany would consider terms if her enemies sued for them, must now pay more dearly for peace. Evidently the opposing sides are still far from agreement as to which one is winning.

Organized labor selected a boomerang for a weapon when it attacked Director Ralph of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing for sending expert employees of the bureau to Cuba to assist in establishing a government engraving plant. Not only is it late in the day for any organization to oppose the giving of aid to Cuba by the United States government, but it goes without saying that if Director Ralph had not supplied the assistance required it would have been obtained from other sources, probably in the United States. Attempts to block the wheels of progress anywhere and especially in Cuba, are not likely to gain public sympathy in this country.

Commercial Revolution Next.

If the leaders of the administration party in Congress intend to carry out the President's program and provide for a tariff commission, a bill for that purpose should have the right of way immediately after preparedness legislation is disposed of. The huge task that would be given to such a commission, if it is to accomplish any thing of value, should already be under way when hostilities cease in Europe, for peace will bring large problems in connection with our foreign commerce. In France and England they are looking forward to the end of the war, while in this country, in spite of the admonitions of a number of far-sighted statesmen, no step has been taken in the direction of meeting the commercial revolution which must come with peace.

The impending British order-in-council, prohibiting the importation of luxuries into the United Kingdom, gives a hint of what we must expect when the fighting ends and the commercial war for the rehabilitation of the impoverished nations begins. The order is worrying the business men of this country, but not its statesmen. No doubt our manufacturers can see not only this order in effect years after the war is over, but similar restrictions imposed by other nations.

It cannot be doubted that the commercial outlook calls for preparation in this country, though it may well be doubted whether a commission assigned to the investigation merely of questions connected with the tariff would be competent to measure the prospective commercial upheaval and devise the means for surmounting it. Rather the advisability of an exceptionally qualified non-partisan commission, with broad powers and authority to investigate the whole question of foreign commerce, appears to be worthy of consideration at this time. But whatever the plans of the party in power are for the safeguarding of the country's commercial welfare after the war, they cannot with safety be much longer delayed.

Censorship Is Imperative.

Not only in this country but even in England the press and a portion of the public have evinced a disposition to rail at the censorship, so rigidly exercised over information concerning the war, as stupid and unnecessary. Yet only a day or two after our own government sends into Mexico a punitive expedition, insignificant compared with the smallest military movement in the European war, the vital importance of the censorship is impressed upon the country by Maj. W. R. Sample, in command of the military camp at Columbus, N. Mex., who says of the newspaper correspondents:

"The man who gets a scoop is an arch criminal. . . . American soldiers' lives already have been possibly endangered by violation of the censorship."

He means, of course, that in making public the plans of the expedition against Villa there is danger of betraying the American force into the hands of the enemy. The possession of detailed information regarding the preliminary movement of our soldiers can be of no real value to the American public, but it may enable Villa to strike a deadly blow. It is unbelievable that newspaper readers would have their interest or their curiosity satisfied at that price, and patriotism should restrain American newspapers from publishing information that it is known would aid the enemy, should their correspondents succeed in evading the censorship.

Correspondents in Mexico and on the border have a duty to perform to their newspapers and to the public, but they owe, too, a duty to their country, and there is no doubt that the people generally would approve the most drastic measures against any man who, in disregarding it, imperils the lives of American soldiers.

When there is a battle with Villa and his followers, or the brigand is captured, all the details will quickly be available throughout the country, but in the meantime the censorship over military plans or the movement of the troops is injuring no one and if violation of it brings severe punishment there will be no sympathy for the guilty ones.

Loafers in the Bread Lines.

The spirit of investigation, which in recent years has harassed the big business of the country, has taken a new and strange direction, with the result that startling discoveries are being followed by reform in the bread lines of New York City. Already the Salvation Army has abolished its bread line, and the police have declared war against a large class of lazy mendicants, who refuse work when it is offered to them and subsist by patronizing all the free food dispensaries in the city, spending the time between meals in the free libraries. The investigation was undertaken by the head of the bureau of unemployment of the police department and the official in charge of the Salvation Army bread line, and when an effort was made to hire men for work paying from \$1 to \$3 a day, out of hundreds approached only half a dozen or so were found to be willing to work. Drove of able-bodied vagabonds offered all sorts of excuses for declining toil, the real reason being that they found it quite easy to exist on the unquestioning charity of the Salvation Army and other organizations and individuals. But an end is to be put to their grafting, and those who refuse to support themselves when the opportunity is offered to them are to be sent to jail.

While this discovery of flagrant abuses is a strong argument in favor of organized and supervised charity, as represented, for instance, by the Associated Charities of this city, it does not offer sufficient reason for abolishing the bread lines of New York City or elsewhere, nor is it likely to have that effect. The bread lines of New York, in the many years they have been established, have saved from starvation thousands of deserving men out of work or down and out from various causes. They fill an important place of their own in the life of the great city, offering the one thing that is the immediate need of the hungry—food. These recent discoveries probably will result in some sort of scrutiny of the bread lines hereafter, but

the city's philanthropists will not be so disheartened that they will permit worthy applicants for bread to go hungry because a lot of lazy vagabonds have utilized the bread lines to support them in a life of idleness.

Making a Living.

By JOHN D. HARRY.
 Here is part of a letter that I have just received: "I want to ask you if there is any place on this earth where a respectable woman with an invalid husband and five babies can earn an honest living? I want to raise my children to be good citizens and I do not want charity. Neither do I want to bring them up as paupers. I simply want a chance to put bread in their mouths and send them to school. I am nearly insane with the struggle and cannot keep on much longer. Why is it so hard to earn an honest living and so easy to gain a living by dishonest and dishonorable means? I am thinking seriously of taking up a homestead claim and roughing it, but have no way of locating it. Can you advise me?"

This letter is signed with initials. It is obviously written by an intelligent woman. And it sounds like the letter of a woman who is capable. It shows, however, the helplessness of many capable and intelligent women. Their lives are so "sheltered" that in cases of emergency, where practical knowledge is required, they don't know what to do. They are like physical cripples.

The information desired by this woman is easily accessible. All she has to do is apply to the United States Land Office. There she will be supplied with a little pamphlet giving all the information she desires.

I believe this woman is mistaken in thinking that it is easy for a woman to gain a living by "dishonest and dishonorable" means. Such means are really very hard. Surely there could be no harder way for a woman to earn a living than by leading an immoral life. Moreover, in all dishonesty, cleverness is necessary. We don't often hear of unsuccessful prostitutes; but there are many such.

Successful lawbreakers, as a class, are exceedingly clever. If the same amount of cleverness were applied to honest work as is spent on dishonest work the result would be tremendously profitable to the workers.

The fundamental cause of so much dishonesty is not that dishonesty pays. It is that the opportunities for the exercise of dishonesty are greater than the opportunities for the exercise of honesty.

The limitation of opportunity is the curse of our economic life.

There is always work for women to do, however, in the way of domestic service, that is, if they are efficient and untrammelled. But as domestic service is now conducted, it is, in many cases, virtual slavery. Servants, even though they may not be heavily burdened, may still have to be on duty most of the day and part of the evening. And women with children, as a rule, are not desired as servants. They are likely to be interfered with in their work. As a rule such women have to turn over their children to the care of other women, often untrustworthy.

In all cities of considerable size, there are several organizations conducted for the purpose of helping people in distress. In some instances these most worthy helping are afraid of such organizations. Their fear is not unreasonable. They have a very natural pride and they have heard stories about the humiliations applicants for aid are sometimes subjected to. Then, where there are children, the mothers are terribly afraid of having the children taken from them.

Here, indeed, is one of the chief reasons why many mothers suffer in silence. Nowadays it is the policy of most philanthropic workers not to do anything that will break up families. They are constantly expressing their belief in the social value of the family group. And yet, only the other day, I heard a woman who devotes most of her life to fine philanthropic service, speak of another woman in straits, the mother of three children, and she insisted that the children ought to be taken away so that the mother might be free to work. She realized that under the circumstances no allowance whatever could be made for the powerful instinct which makes the mother long to keep her children under her personal care.

There is great need in every large city for a central bureau where those people may meet who are in need of work and those who are looking for workers. Often I hear people complain that they cannot find any one for "love or money," as they sometimes say, to do this work or that. Then I am reminded of the thousands all about who are seeking for jobs. Surely we ought to be able to find a way of bringing these people together.

All students of social conditions say that there is plenty of work in the world for every one. We are merely slow about organizing. Incidentally, of course, we have been very unimaginative and unsympathetic. Soon we are going to see the folly of allowing an honest woman with five children to be in want. We shall realize that the state needs that woman and needs those five children. It is not going to keep on letting such a woman and her children go to destruction. In the end such an indulgence is altogether too costly to the state. The name of charity we shall some day dignify with a less offensive name, indicating that when wisely directed, it is really economy. For we shall see that, in the end, it pays us to give every one in the community a chance.

The Boom in Steel.

The boom in steel has driven the unfilled tonnage of the Steel Corporation above any previous figures, although in the early years of the company business between the subsidiaries was included, as it is not now. The increase in February was 640,190 tons, very much more than the most optimistic forecasts. Out of more than eight and a half million tons on the company's books, all but about one million is for delivery this year. The main factor in this immense aggregate is not war orders, but railroad and industrial buying.—Philadelphia Record.

OUR COUNTRY—
 By OUR PRESIDENT
 A History of the American People
 by WOODROW WILSON

The Financial Stress.
 Published by a special arrangement with the President through The McClure Newspaper Syndicate.
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The financial measures of the Confederation showed the straits to which it was put to support the struggle, and the extraordinary lengths to which the exigencies of the war were straining its powers, quite as clearly as its wholesale drafts of men and its arbitrary arrests in rebuke of dissent. In its need for money the government had resorted to every expedient known to finance, even the most drastic and desperate.

Money it knew from the first to be scarce. The banking capital of the South was too small to support the needs of the accumulation of specie and of stocks of goods out of all proportion smaller, and more restricted in geographical distribution.

At the very outset provision was made for the payment of taxes in kind. When its redundant issues of Treasury notes failed to add enough to the direct taxes to meet the necessities of the exchequer the government sought and obtained of the planters loans from their crops—promised to be paid in kind.

The value of money was poured out as if from a sieve, for the lack of anything else to pay.

The several States themselves took supplies from the people for the troops they had undertaken to maintain in the field, and paid for them with their own certificates of indebtedness.

The property of all alien enemies was seized, and the proceeds were used for the final pinch of necessity. Congress authorized the seizure of food supplies at rates fixed every sixty days by state committees in New York.

There was but protest and indignation at this, but necessity had become the law of the land. Some might grumble, and even make do if they would rest, but there was in fact no limit to the devotion of the people to the cause they had espoused.

Women gave their very hair to be sold.

Tomorrow: A Masterful Executive.

Special Correspondent of The Washington Herald.
 New York, March 19.—Charlie Edson, the man from Arkansas, is back on Broadway from Half Moon Mountain where he has been for a week.

About six months ago he suddenly disappeared and the next heard of him was that he was writing the Great American Hick novel in the hills where he was born.

A breath from the West is Charles. He sees Broadway from the same angle as the crowd around the general store in the main street. He has a natural writing ability and combined with it a self-education that puts him in the class of the best writers in New York.

He just poked around in the odd nooks and corners of Gotham and turns up stories that city editors never knew were there. The other day he was browsing in Washington Square and found a script, but a little group of thinkers who were reading from the anthology of verse there, here is one of the poems that he heard:

My elbow knocked my knee away
 And the hollow under my knee aches
 Are curious places.
 My heels are melancholy
 Lolling and drooping all day
 My toes have turned round
 From never being amused.

Cheer Fessler has been on the Broadway horizon and then disappeared as silently as it came. It was a restaurant that was just a little too steep in its prices and there are a few guesses that will make New Yorkers go k-k-but very few.

The motive of the restaurant was to establish in New York a replica of the famous cafe, chateau, which M. de Fysher used to conduct in Paris and it would probably have met with success if M. de Fysher had not rather imagined pride in being robbed.

A guest never knew whether the "couvert" price was to be \$1 or \$2. The "couvert" was the right to sit at a table. They used to regulate it at the Chez according to the amount needed to pay the hired hands. Finally it was discovered that you could spend the night in the Paris Chez for about the same amount that you spent in the New York place in fifteen minutes.

There was no one left to soak—so M. de Fysher quit Chezing.

It was a distinguished gathering at the Century Theatre last week to honor William Winter, the veteran dramatic critic. He is now in his 80th year.

OPHELIA'S SLATE.

Don't make any more mistakes. Don't make any more mistakes. Don't make any more mistakes.

For the man who has yet to become acquainted with himself, I strongly urge the fishing hobby. It will surely introduce him to his Better Self.

(Copyright, 1914.)

Cross Mason-Dixon Line to Wed.
 Cumberland, Md., March 19.—Marriage licenses were issued to the following Pennsylvanians: Albert J. Butch, Wall, and Lancelotti B. Markins, Pittsburg; Daniel M. Stoller and Edna Horton, Dudley; Joseph C. Slesky and Beanie E. Wilson, Connellsville; Robert M. Wilson and Ora Shank, Manassas; Allen C. Baumann, Manassas; Gladys Staley, Glencoe.

The Herald's Army and Navy Department
 Latest and Most Complete News of Service and Personnel Published in Washington.

By E. B. JOHNS.
 Capt. Lewis J. Van Schaick, Eleventh Infantry, who has been detailed as military attaché for the American Embassy that is to be re-established at Mexico City, reported for temporary duty at the War College Saturday. He is a brother of Rev. John Van Schaick, who was recently attached to the relief expedition of the Carnegie Foundation. Rev. Mr. Van Schaick is pastor of the South Universalist Church and will entertain Capt. Van Schaick while he is in the city.

After three years' service on the border, during which time he was with Gen. Punston's expedition to Vera Cruz, Capt. Van Schaick is to be sent into Mexico on official duty. Fortunately it was that he has been assigned to an officer. Previous to his duty on the border Capt. Van Schaick served twelve years in the Philippines. Spanish is almost as familiar to him as his native tongue, and he is better acquainted with Mexican politics and intrigues than he is with the affairs of his own country.

On his way to Douglas, Ariz., where his regiment was stationed when he was ordered to Washington, Capt. Van Schaick passed through Columbus, N. Mex. He said that supplies for the expeditionary force were being poured into Columbus by the trainroads, and the little city has taken on the appearance of a war army. He is the only army which has been in the open. There are not enough buildings in Columbus to house the army, and the supplies that are being concentrated in the little city.

Among the important changes in the organization of the army that are proposed in the Senate bill is one which gives the Chief of Staff the rank of lieutenant general. Perhaps the United States army is the only army which does not have this rank. Even the small South American countries have not only lieutenant generals, but full generals. Most of the European armies have a still higher rank than general, such as field marshal and other titles peculiar to their own organization.

The bill also significantly introduced by Senator Chamberlain abolished the grade of brigadier general and created that of lieutenant general and major general for officers. Under it there were two grades of major general. One grade of major general receives the pay and allowance of the present major general and the other the pay and allowance of the present brigadier general. As the bill was reported out of the committee it creates rank of lieutenant general only for the present major general and retains the grade of brigadier general. The rank of lieutenant general is held only while the officer is acting as Chief of Staff.

The bill restores the old corps organization of the army. It abolishes the table of organizations prepared by the War College, some time ago, the term "army" was substituted for corps. The bill also abolishes the grade of lieutenant general in other respects follows the report of the War College. It specifies that the typical infantry brigade shall consist of three regiments. The same number of regiments are provided for cavalry and field artillery brigades. The typical infantry division will consist of three infantry brigades, one regiment of cavalry, one field artillery brigade, one regiment of engineers, one field battalion of Signal Corps, one aero squadron, one ammunition train, one supply train, one engineer train and one sanitary train.

A cavalry division is fixed at three cavalry regiments, one regiment with horse field artillery, one battalion of mounted engineers, one mounted field signal battalion, one aero squadron, one ammunition train, one supply train, one engineer train and one sanitary train.

HISTORY BUILDERS.

When Gold Was Coined in Oregon.
 By Dr. E. J. EDWARDS.

In the winter of 1881, Ben Holliday lived in Washington. He had some important claims upon which he was seeking judgment. He was one of the interesting personalities in Washington at that time. When he was pointed out by those who knew him to others who had never seen him but had often heard of him, he was carefully scrutinized. His reputation as the founder and manager of the "bad" room, which still holds sway across the continent to the Pacific slope, before the railroads were built, had given him a national reputation.

Some time after Ben Holliday was chatting with friends, he showed them a ten-dollar gold piece. Upon examining this coin, it was discovered it was not coined at any mint in the United States.

He had his friends guess where the gold was coined, but none could tell him. He carried this coin as a sort of trophy, and he showed it to his friends when he was promoting certain railroad propositions in the State of Oregon. Some one of his friends in that State presented him with this coin.

The history of the coin was narrated by Mr. Holliday. He began by saying it came from a mint in the State of California. It was the Philadelphia mint. It was the only mint operated in the United States after independence was secured excepting those established by the government at Washington.

After gold was discovered in California, many venturesome persons went from Oregon to California, hoping to find great riches in the gold. After a year or two, many of them returned to Oregon. They carried their gold dust in skin pouches, attached to belts, and they also carried guns or pistols to defend themselves. This gold dust was accepted by merchants in payment for commodities, but it was discovered that the scales used did not weigh accurately and that a good deal of the dust was not clean. Therefore, the leading citizens in the territory of Oregon decided that some of the possessed dust should be built a mint. They did this, but it was a crude establishment, so crude that the iron used in it was chiefly taken from wagon wheels.

There was an artisan there who had skill enough to engrave dies. There were two of these, one for five-dollar coins and one for ten-dollar coins. This mint was authorized by the territory legislature. It cost about forty thousand dollars before it stopped. Then the mint was dismantled because communication with California had become more difficult. It was possible conveniently to make use of the mint established at San Francisco. Mr. Holliday could not say whether there were more of these coins still remaining, excepting those which he had kept as curiosities, like the one which he possessed.

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Send Sick Man 33-Foot Letter.
 Delmar, Del., March 19.—Friends of Nathan G. West, of Delmar, who is ill in a hospital, adopted a unique way to cheer him during his sickness when they combined in writing him a letter on a roll of paper thirty-three feet long and containing messages from eighteen friends.

Morning Smiles.

Magistrate—But what caused the quarrel between you and your wife?
 Complainant—I put her down as a dependent of mine sir.—Sydney Bulletin.

"Goodness gracious me!" What on earth are you doing, children—using up all my fine stationery?"
 "My dear old Benjamine and Secretary Lansing!"—New York World.

Joan (reading)—It says here that this was an Armageddon, and the end of the world. I don't believe in the beginning of April.

Darby—There, now, I always said the Kaiser would wrinkle out of it somehow!—Punch.

"I can't understand why men should complain about their wives having the last word. I never object to mine having the last word."

"Not a bit. I'm always thankful when she gets to it."—Boston Transcript.

"Pa, the school bus is back to school they jump on him!"
 "That so? Then I guess we'll have to look out for the school bus and off the street. Just warn him that if he does out tomorrow he goes to his own risk."—Detroit Free Press.

Find War Veteran Dead in Cellar.

Savoy, Pa., March 19.—Alex E. Shearer, superintendent of Savoy, Pa., has found dead this morning in a cellar where he had gone to fix a furnace.

He was a native of Lewistown, Pa., and was second lieutenant in Company A, Forty-first New York Volunteer.

INFANTILE ECZEMA ON LITTLE BABY

When Two Weeks Old, Blisters All Over, Cried Day and Night. Just Burning Up. Hair Fell Out.

HEALED BY CUTICURA SOAP AND OINTMENT

"My baby had infantile eczema. She was taken when she was two weeks old and the turned red all over, first on her mouth and nose and in less than twenty-four hours she was all over blisters all over. The blisters would break and the skin came off and she cried day and night. She couldn't have any clothes on for four or five over two weeks she was just burning up. Her hair all fell out and she was badly disfigured. I thought she would die."

"A friend told me to get Cuticura Soap and Ointment and after using them two weeks she was healed." (Signed) Mrs. Alice Garrett, Ansonia, Tex., Aug. 22, 1913.

Sample Each Free by Mail
 With 32-p. Skin Book on request. Address post-card "Cuticura, Dept. T, Boston." Sold throughout the world.